



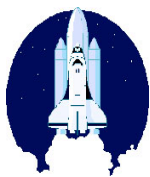
# countdown

December 18, 2008

Vol. 13, No. 94

## STS-119 mission briefing to air live Jan. 9

## Send holiday greetings to space station crew



### ◆ Shuttle Update:

NASA will discuss the next space shuttle mission during a daylong series of media briefings from JSC beginning at 9 a.m. Jan. 9.

The briefings will be broadcast live on NASA Television and the agency's Web site. Space shuttle Discovery's 14-day mission to the International Space Station is targeted for launch Feb. 12. Discovery will deliver the final set of solar arrays and the last segment of the station's backbone. The crew will perform four spacewalks during the 10 days the shuttle is docked to the station.

◆ **ISS Update:** You can help Expedition 18 Commander Mike Fincke and Flight Engineers Sandra Magnus and Yury Lonchakov celebrate the holiday season 220 miles above Earth by sending your greetings into space. Go to the Web site

<http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/postcard/> and follow the directions.

■ **Exhibits Welcome At PM Challenge** — The PM Challenge invites internal NASA organizations to exhibit this year. Space is still available. Check out the PM Challenge Web site at: <http://pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov>. For more information, please contact JoAnn Carter at [JoAnn.M.Carter@nasa.gov](mailto:JoAnn.M.Carter@nasa.gov).

■ **NASA Science** — Solar flares are supposed to obliterate everything in their vicinity, yet one of the most powerful flares of the past 30 years has done just the opposite, emitting a beam of pure and

unbroken hydrogen atoms. Researchers think this strange event could yield vital clues to the inner workings of solar flares. You can read the full story at: [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/15dec\\_solarflaresurprise.htm](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/15dec_solarflaresurprise.htm).

■ **Girls Engineering Workshop** — Registration is open for the Introducing Girls to Engineering Workshop for girls in third to sixth grades to be held at Cocoa Beach Junior/Senior High School on Jan. 31. Details for this program sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers is on the Web at [www.swe-sc.org/IGEW](http://www.swe-sc.org/IGEW).

Volunteers also are being sought to help with this program. Leaders are needed for several workshop sessions and helpers for all sessions. Registration information is on the Web at: <http://www.swe-sc.org/IGEW/VolunteerReg.htm>.

A teacher's workshop featuring hands-on science activities for the classroom also is being offered in conjunction with this program with funding provided by Boeing. Please let your child's elementary school teacher know about this opportunity. Registration information is at: <http://www.swe-sc.org/IGEW/Teachers.htm>.

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Kersey at either [judy.bersey@swe.org](mailto:judy.bersey@swe.org) or 783-4644 (after 10 a.m.)

■ **Help KSC/CCAFS Save Energy Dollars this Upcoming Holiday Season** — With the holiday season around the corner and most of us taking some leave during the next several weeks, please remember that it takes commitment from

everyone at the spaceport to help KSC and CCAFS save energy dollars. Every day, before going home for the day, please remember to:

- Turn off your computer, monitor, printer and power strip (if not required to remain on).
- Turn off the lights in your office if you are the last person to leave.
- Turn off the hall and hall closet lights on your way out if you are the last person to leave your area.
- Turn off displays and decorative lights.
- Turn off or unplug any appliances in the office, such as coffee makers, desk lamps, fans, radios, etc.
- Turn off the copier machines (including hallways) and scanners except the new multifunction (copier/fax) machines like the Xerox Workcentre devices with sleep mode enabled. Turning them off will prevent the office from receiving faxes.
- Please make sure that no objects interfere with the operation of motion sensors. Anything that can move around motion sensors (for example, mission flags) will prevent the motion sensors from shutting off the lights.
- Close the blinds on all windows.

*Countdown* is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 9 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to [anita.l.barrett@nasa.gov](mailto:anita.l.barrett@nasa.gov). For questions or information, e-mail or call 867-2815. You can also find PDF editions of *Countdown* on the Web at: [http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown\\_toc.html](http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html).